



COSTA RICA

Project pages

Contents

[Costa Rica Introduction](#)

[Animal Rescue Project in Costa Rica](#)

[Community Empowerment Volunteering at Cooperatives in Costa Rica](#)

[Costa Rica Spring Break Volunteering Week](#)

[Learn Spanish in Costa Rica](#)

[Mother and Child Nutrition in Costa Rica](#)

[Sea Turtle Conservation in Costa Rica](#)

[Teach in Elementary Schools and Kindergartens in Costa Rica](#)

[Teen and Young Adult Community Volunteering in Costa Rica](#)

[Volunteering for 16 and 17 year olds in Costa Rica](#)

[Program Agreement, Terms and Conditions](#)



Costa Rica, or “rich coast,” boasts a warm climate, pristine beaches on the Caribbean Sea and Pacific Ocean, active volcanoes, and contrasting landscapes.

With such eco-diversity it is easy to see why Costa Rica is the best-travelled nation in the Central Americas with almost 2.2 million visitors in 2011. Often called the land of peace, it has the oldest democracy in Latin America and been political stable for over 100 years . It is one of the most people- and environment- conscious nations in the world, ranked number 1 in the Americas on the Human Development Index and No. 5 in the world on the Environmental Performance Index.

Poverty levels had been a constant 20% of the population for around 20 years. Despite improved tourism, agriculture and electronic exports the recent financial challenges have had an impact with poverty levels increasing to 24.8% in 2010. Major progress has been made in water supply, education and life expectancy but the work must continue.

Life outside of the project

Costa Rica is one of the most popular countries for travel, and for very good reasons. Though Costa Rica has only about 0.1% of the world's land mass, it contains 5% of the World's biodiversity, so nature lovers will find this beautiful country a paradise. There are a multitude of opportunities for mountain and water sports and many other forms of outdoor recreation, so if you love adventure, Costa Rica is a place you'll never want to leave. Due to their contact through the tourism industry many Costa Ricans have a basic knowledge of English. Volunteers who also have beginner Spanish skills will not have much difficulty travelling here.

Kaya's projects are based either in or around the bustling capital of San Jose, and in the rural and coastal communities of Atenas, a small traditional community, on the western slopes of the Central Valley.

Costa Rica



Weather

Average temperature: 19°C

Wet season: May - December

Dry season: January - May

Monsoon season: -

Animal Rescue Project in Costa Rica

COSTA RICA

The project

Come volunteer with us in Costa Rica in a busy animal rescue centre, helping animals that have been neglected by their owners, lost their natural habitats, been confiscated as they were illegal pets, or have been injured and are now undergoing rehabilitation. Many of these animals are able to be nursed back to health and where possible, released back into the wild. The projects need help to control the huge numbers of unwanted and abandoned pets in Costa Rica. The goal is to nurture and release the animals back into the wild where possible. Some animals in the rescue centres are permanent members of the family because they couldn't be released back into the wild or are part of a conservation breeding programme. You can expect to see all sorts of incredibly interesting and beautiful animals such as tapirs, spider monkeys and green and scarlet Macaws once you join one of the 4 projects we offer after completing a week of intensive Spanish lesson in San Jose to prepare you for your placement. Join us in Costa Rica and work on a fascinating front-line animal care and conservation programme that animal lovers are sure to enjoy.

Role of the volunteer

Volunteers will begin their placement in Costa Rica attending a 1 week intensive Spanish school in San Jose. Your lessons will very much be determined by your current levels. It is a great opportunity to meet other people and they may even help you to determine where you would like to work. Your studies will be followed by 2 weeks or more volunteering at one of 4 project sites which you will select on arrival in San Jose. Everyday tasks may involve food preparation for the animals, cleaning cages, repairing habitats, caring for the animals, cleaning trails and participating in providing information to visitors at the sanctuaries.

Skills required

Volunteers of all backgrounds are welcome, and those with skills or experience in veterinary medicine are most helpful. Volunteers must be eager to help wherever needed, show compassion, have lots of energy and love animals. Volunteers must also have the emotional maturity to accept that some animals may be too sick or injured to have a decent quality of life, and that euthanasia is necessary. Please note that most placements operate a hands-off policy as this is in the best interests of animals if they are to be returned to the wild. A good basic level of Spanish is required (Basic User Level A2 of the CEFR) for acceptance onto this placement. If you are not this level, you can book additional language lessons prior to your project start date. Please discuss this with a Kaya Placements Advisor.

Why choose this project

- ✔ Help is needed every day to aid the animals recovery and release back into the wild as the number of animals coming into the centre is increasing.
- ✔ Benefit from seeing first-hand the approaches that are being taken to tackle wildlife rehabilitation and release.
- ✔ Develop your Spanish skills through practicing with local families and project members while in return encouraging non-native speakers to develop their English speaking skills.

Project location

Costa Rica is a beautiful destination with volcanoes, beaches, cloud forests as well as its rich culture. Costa Rica is a regional favourite for tourism but unlike other destination San Jose does not have one central tourist area. It is a cosmopolitan city with museums, hotels, bars, coffee shops and plazas all over the city. Spend time exploring during your first week and discover its rich past. The projects are based in 4 different areas but the beach locations are very popular with tourists on the Pacific coast and these are great for those who want to relax on their days off. Costa Rica is famous for its biodiversity with hikes in the rainforest, nature trails through the Cloud Forest and waterfalls in abundance. Surfing and adventure sports are popular in Costa Rica at the beach locations. Costa Rican night life can offer anything from visiting a local karaoke bar to dancing the night away in a bar or club in the city. Whatever your interest, this multi-location project is sure to be able to offer plenty for you to do.

Project facts

Duration: 3 - 26 weeks

Requirements: Age 18+

Location: Choice of 4 project locations: Guancaste, Pacific, Turracares or Alajuela in Costa Rica

Working hours: 5 or 6 days per week depending on your project choice

Project availability: All year round

Arrival day: Sunday

What's included

Accommodation: Single or Shared room in a home-stay or Volunteer

Accommodation depending on your project choice, homestay in San Jose

Meals: 3 per day during placement, 2 per day during Spanish study

Airport: pick up from San Jose International Airport

Training: Pre-departure preparation pack, on-site Orientation and Project induction provided

Support: On-site coordinator providing 24 hour support

Excursion Planning: -

1 week intensive Spanish lessons in San Jose (20 hours study)

Transport by public bus to project (private transfers available at additional cost)

What's not

Flights

Insurance

Visas

Daily transport between your accommodation and your project

Airport Drop Off to San Jose International

Additional weeks of Spanish classes.

These can be arranged for £250 / \$438 per week. Price includes accommodation.

Police/Government Background Check; US and UK citizens will be processed through Kaya (admin fee applies) all other

nationalities must provide local police check

Community Empowerment Volunteering at Cooperatives in Costa Rica

COSTA RICA

The project

Become a volunteer in Costa Rica and join one of our most unique projects in Central America assisting local communities at 2 cooperatives. Many men from the community work at a coffee cooperative and it has supported them and their families for many years by producing coffee that is sold locally and also exported internationally. Many families in the Costa Rican countryside depend exclusively on coffee as it is their source of income and so having an additional source of income is very helpful, especially as there was a coffee crisis in recent years which hit the already-low incomes local families. Fluctuations both in coffee prices or demand can severely affect the producers' income.

The women decided there was a need for an alternative and the orchid cooperative was started in 1993. The project was originally started by 35 local women, but there are now only 8 women who have weathered the years and dedicate themselves to this project. This group of women decided to diversify their income-base by starting a business growing orchids and making compost. They grow these flowers for local sale (within the country) and for exports. The women often have to use their own money to make improvements or keep the project going. They coordinate with expositions and ministries to sell their plants and sell in San José and also at any area fairs or festivals. Join the communities in Costa Rica and help with some of the tasks that enable them to generate income to support themselves and their families.

Role of the volunteer

Your role as a volunteer will involve participating fully in the orchid growing and compost making business as well as at the coffee cooperative. Your time will be divided between the two cooperatives and the division of tasks will depend on the time and duration of your placement. Volunteers will carry out any chores that are required around the sites such as planting, weeding, harvesting and some office based tasks - generally helping where needed. Additionally, you may be asked to run language and computer skills training sessions for the women and men to help them develop their business skills, an essential part of this placement. If you speak a good level of Spanish, you may have the opportunity to help out with marketing related activities too.

Skills required

At least a good basic level of Spanish (Basic User Level A2 of CEFR) is required to participate in this project, as communication with the members of the cooperatives is important. Lessons can be arranged alongside our placement to improve your confidence and help you to make the most out of your time. No other specific skills are required for this project but a moderate level of fitness is required to keep up as well as a love for the outdoors.

Why choose this project

- ✔ Assist completing the required work involved in maintaining the grounds, weeding, making compost and tending to the plants
- ✔ Help expose these rural women to outside ideas and new ways as well as help them practice speaking English by your presence and contribute to keeping their business fresh and growing.
- ✔ Get to practice your Spanish and add an interesting experience to your CV/Resume as you contributed to sustainable livelihood initiatives abroad.

Project location

Volunteers participating in this programme are located in the Atenas community, just outside the bustling city of San Jose. Atenas is a picturesque town situated in the central highlands of Costa Rica, roughly 45 minutes from San Jose. This small town is made up of many surrounding communities that base their livelihoods on agricultural pursuits such as growing coffee, oranges, mangoes, and sugarcane. Costa Rican history, tradition and culture are deeply rooted here. Atenas is a clean and charming town with a laid-back atmosphere. The friendly demeanour of the locals and the surrounding beauty of the area make this an ideal location for volunteering and Spanish study.

Project facts

Duration: 2 – 26 weeks
Requirements: Age 18+
Location: Atenas, Costa Rica
Working hours: Monday-Friday; time split between cooperatives
Project availability: Project starts every Monday.
Arrival day: Saturday

What's included

Accommodation: Single or shared room in a homestay (according to availability)
Meals: 3 per day
Airport: pick up and drop off from San Jose International Airport
Training: Pre-departure preparation pack, on-site Orientation and Project induction provided
Support: On-site coordinator providing 24 hour support
Excursion Planning: -
Language classes: 6 hours language class provided
Activities: 1 dance class and 1 cookery class included. Staff help organise evening and weekend activities.

What's not

Flights
Insurance
Visas
Daily transport between your accommodation and your project
Spanish lessons can be provided for an additional cost of £100 (\$175) for 6 hours tuition.
Police/Government Background Check; US and UK citizens will be processed through Kaya (admin fee applies) all other nationalities must provide local police check

Costa Rica Spring Break Volunteering Week

COSTA RICA

The project

Want to do something amazing with your Spring Break this year? Join us in San Jose for a week of community volunteering helping abandoned and underprivileged children in the city's children's homes, community and day care centres. The children's homes care for children who have been abandoned or removed from their families by the government for their safety. The children's progress is monitored and attempts are made to find families for the children where possible. Community centres provide assistance to poor families, running various community initiatives including daycare for their young children, support with learning, a feeding programme and housing for teenage orphans. Spend your Spring Break this year helping others.

Spring Break in Costa Rica will give you the opportunity to discover some of the amazing things that attract tourists to this amazing country. You will be exposed to cultural activities such as a cooking class and Spanish lessons as well as exploring some of the amazing sights and having lots of fun - the choice is yours! So whether it is exploring the cloud forest, relaxing in the hot springs or white water rafting, bring your enthusiasm and positive attitude to support local families, and give something back during your time in Costa Rica this Spring Break!

Role of the volunteer

Volunteers for Spring Break will be able to help staff to entertain the children by playing games, running activities and supporting the local staff. If you have specific skills or experience please let us know. Volunteers will be asked to think about how they would like to spend their week before they arrive in Costa Rica and come prepared with some ideas and activities for the children.

Your Spring Break will follow a similar itinerary to this:

- Sunday - arrival, orientation, project induction and meet your homestay family
- Monday - Spanish survival
- Tuesday through Thursday - Volunteering with a children's project in San Jose
- Friday - Rainforest canopy tour above the cloud forest with optional zip wire activities or exhilarating white water rafting through the jungle with a lunch picnic
- Saturday - A choice between 1) touring the stunning Arenal Volcano, visiting a centre for artisans and relaxing at the best local hot springs OR 2) visiting a coffee plantation and learning about and sampling Costa Rica's delicious coffee followed by a visit to the stunning La Paz Waterfall 3) travelling through Manuel Antonio National Park and relaxing on one of Costa Rica's pristine beaches
- Sunday - departure

Skills required

This project is open to all and enthusiasm and a willingness to join in are a must. Spanish is required for this placement (Independent User Level B2 of CEFR). Those with intermediate / Advance Spanish can spend 100% of Tuesday - Thursday volunteering. Those with little Spanish will split their time: mornings will be spent volunteering and afternoons learning Spanish. You will be asked to send your CV/Resume before being accepted onto this project.

Why choose this project

- ✓ Provide an extra pair of hands to help the local staff as they are already busy taking care of the day-to-day needs of the children.
- ✓ Spend your Spring Break getting involved with meaningful community work while exposing yourself to a new culture, language and country!
- ✓ Practice and improve your Spanish skills, all while having fun!

Project location

Your project is located in the San Jose region, which boasts all the amenities of a modern city while being surrounded by lush flora, fauna, natural parks and mountains. Costa Rica is an interesting place to visit and is the perfect place for those who love adventure and nature. From the capital city, where the volunteers are based, you are within easy reach of beaches, volcanoes and forests of all kinds. Everything is accessible within 5 to 6 hours by public bus.

Project facts

Duration: 1 week
Requirements: Age 18+
Location: San Jose, Costa Rica
Working hours: Depends on Spanish levels skills
Project availability: Spring Break between the end of February and 1st week of April. RECRUITING FOR 2022
Arrival day: Sunday

What's included

Accommodation: Single or shared room in a family homestay, depending on availability
Meals: 2 per day
Airport: pick up from San Jose International Airport
Training: Pre-departure preparation pack, on-site orientation and project induction provided
Support: On-site coordinator providing 24 hour support
Excursion Planning: -
Laundry
Tours as per the itinerary
Spanish lessons (for non-native Speakers)

What's not

Flights
Insurance
Visas
Airport Drop Off to San Jose International
Extra activities on the tours e.g. zip wire activities, treatments etc
Police/Government Background Check; US and UK citizens will be processed through Kaya (admin fee applies) all other nationalities must provide local police check

Teen Community Volunteering in Costa Rica

COSTA RICA

The project

Want to do something amazing with your free time this year? Join us in a rural community of Costa Rica and contribute to the local community in different ways depending on your personal interest:

- Language teaching working with students aged between 5 and 19.
- Childcare placement working with children aged 6 months and 12.
- Building and construction in the local community.
- Sports and physical education teaching for students aged between 5 and 19.
- Farming placement assisting local farmers with their livestock, crops of coffee, cacao, avocado and more!

Costa Rica relies heavily on tourism, and tourism relies on locals speaking popular tourist languages. Private schools are often bilingual, but expensive, and children in government schools are often left behind. This placement gives you the chance to improve the prospects of children in government schools and locals by broadening their cultural horizons and giving them the confidence to use and practice a foreign language. They will learn in order by engaging in conversations with you, and it will benefit them for life.

Support one of these community development initiatives while developing your own language skills and immersing yourself in a new culture to further your own horizons.

Role of the volunteer

Depending on your aspirations, volunteers can get involved in a few different placements:

- Language teaching volunteers will teach language classes, usually English, but could also cater for French, German or Mandarin Chinese. The placement helps expose local students to another language, and gives you an insight into the Costa Rican education system.
- Childcare teaching volunteers will work alongside local staff to teach and interact with local children in English. The main purpose is for the children to learn, have fun and grow with confidence. This is a good experience to gain teaching and childcare experience for all participants.
- Building and construction volunteers will get involved depending on the needs of the community at the time. Activities can range from painting, to maintaining buildings, green areas or helping with local construction or environmental projects.
- Sports and physical education volunteers will have the chance to organize games and exercise outside for students in either English or Spanish, or a mix of the two languages. It is an opportunity for the local students to play sports, where they have very little opportunities to do so otherwise.
- Farming volunteers should be ready to get their hands dirty as they immerse themselves in rural life assisting with bio garden projects, horse training, fish farming, or attending to cattles with the local farmers. What a better way to gain a unique insight into traditional and more modern, green, farming methods.

Skills required

This project is open to all. Spanish is not required for this placement. Flexibility, enthusiasm and willingness to join in are a must!

Why choose this project

- ✓ Provide an extra pair of hands to help the local community with their development initiatives.
- ✓ Spend your free time doing some meaningful work within a rural community while learning about their traditions and cultures.
- ✓ Practice and improve your Spanish skills, all while having fun!

Project location

Your project is located in Esparza, which is a medium-sized agricultural town nestled amongst the mountains above Rio Barranca, in the Central Pacific Coast area of Costa Rica. The Spanish town is the second oldest in the country and it has a rich history including legends of hidden pirate gold. The town is off the tourist trail, and very relaxed. The nearest beach to surf and relax is only 20 minutes away, and within 25 kilometers of the town, you can find canopy tours as well as the world-famous attractions of Puntarenas. The closest national park of Carara is only an hour's drive giving you plenty of optional activities to do during your down time. The accommodation consist of newly built eco houses where you will share your meals, and find plenty of communal areas to relax and enjoy with other like-minded individuals. The accommodation offer a large garden of tropical plants including coconut palm, papaya, banana and citrus making it an idyllic lodge.

Project facts

Duration: 2+ weeks

Requirements: Age 16+

Location: Esparza, Costa Rica

Working hours: 4-5 hours a day

Project availability: Weekly

Arrival day: Saturday or Sunday

What's included

Accommodation: Shared room in an eco lodge with other volunteers

Meals: 3 meals a day Mondays through Fridays, and 2 meals on Saturdays and Sundays

Airport: pick up from San Jose International Airport

Training: Pre-departure preparation pack, on-site orientation and project induction provided

Support: On-site coordinator providing 24 hour support

Excursion Planning: staff helps organise weekend activities (activity prices may be extra)

Fundraising Guide

What's not

Flights

Insurance

Visas

Airport Drop Off to San Jose International Police/Government Background Check; US and UK citizens will be processed through Kaya (admin fee applies) all other nationalities must provide local police check

Any costs for COVID-19 PCR tests required pre-departure and in-country

Volunteering for 16 and 17 year olds in Costa Rica

COSTA RICA

The project

If you are looking to spend your holidays doing something different and help others through volunteering overseas, why not join Kaya and work on one of 4 projects in Costa Rica that accept 16 and 17-year-olds? If you are 16 or 17 years old, you can join local staff and older volunteers to work in pre-schools, primary schools, childcare centres, a coffee cooperative, a bilingual school, a turtle protection project or a veterinarian clinic.

The projects support communities in and around Atenas, and they provide for many a low level of income, which is generated through agricultural activities, such as coffee or orchid growing. The communities rely on drop-in nutrition centres, located next to elementary schools, where children can have a meal and nutritious snacks while their parents work. The parents are often looking to generate extra income, which is why coffee cooperatives have been set up. Children are taken to childcare centres so parents are able to work. In elementary schools, there is often a lack of resources and extra classroom help is always welcomed. There is also a project to protect land turtles, which are often overlooked in favour of sea turtles. Bring your enthusiasm and willingness to help where needed and support local communities and initiatives in Costa Rica through volunteering in your spare time.

Role of the volunteer

Your role as a volunteer will vary depending on your project choice. All projects have a range of tasks that you will participate in while working alongside local staff. Here are the choices available to you as a 16 or 17-year-old volunteer:

- Coffee cooperative for men in the community - harvesting in December / January, drying and roasting the beans, office work, watering plants. An interesting placement.
- Childcare Centre for pre-school children - aged under 5, supporting local childcare workers with games, activities and snack time. A fun placement.
- Primary schools - Assist teachers in the preparation of lesson plans and other projects in the classroom. The kids are really enthusiastic and keen to learn. A fun place to be.
- Turtle project - protecting terrestrial turtles and their habitat. This breeding programme is based at a non profit organisation. It also offers hydroponics activities, where the income generated from the sales of plants goes towards the running of the project. A great opportunity to learn about conservation.
- Veterinary clinic project - You can give a hand as this clinic's staff attend to different domesticated animals. A must for animal lovers.

Tasks vary depending on the time and duration of your placement and the needs of the project.

Skills required

At basic level of Spanish (Basic User Level A1 of CEFR) is required as you will be living with a local homestay family. This will enable you to build relationships with the project staff and beneficiaries. Spanish lessons can be arranged alongside your placement to improve confidence and increase the benefit of your time here. You should have a positive attitude, a willingness to help out and an interest in working with other people. All volunteers will be asked to attend a telephone interview and obtain parental consent forms for acceptance onto the projects.

Why choose this project

- ✓ Share your enthusiasm and energy with the communities of Atenas.
- ✓ Share an extra pair of hands as it is always needed in these poorer communities, and you will be welcomed by all.
- ✓ Develop your Spanish skills and put your language into practice both with your homestay family and the project while helping them develop their English speaking skills.

Project location

You are participating in a programme located in the Atenas community, just outside the bustling city of San Jose. It is a lovely town in the central highlands of Costa Rica, approximately 45 minutes from San Jose. You will experience Costa Rican history, tradition and culture as they are deeply rooted here. Atenas is a charming town with a laid-back atmosphere and there are plenty of fun activities for you to do at weekends. The friendly demeanour of the locals and fabulous location make this an ideal location for you to enjoy your volunteering in Costa Rica.

Project facts

Duration: 2 – 12 weeks

Requirements: Age 16 – 17 (older participants should speak to a Kaya advisor)

Location: Atenas, Costa Rica

Working hours: Monday-Friday; varies depending on the project.

Project availability: All year round, except for schools, which close in December, January and the first two weeks in July.

Arrival day: Saturday

What's included

Accommodation: Single or shared room in a homestay (according to availability)

Meals: 3 Meals per day

Airport pick up: Airport pick up and drop off from San Jose International Airport

Training: Pre-departure preparation pack, on-site Orientation and Project induction provided

Support: On-site coordinator providing 24 hour support

Excursion Planning: -

Language classes: 6 hours language class provided

Activities: 1 dance class and 1 cookery class included. Staff help organise evening and weekend activities.

What's not

Flights

Insurance

Visas

Daily transport between your accommodation and your project
Spanish lessons can be provided for an additional cost of £100 (\$175) for 6 hours tuition.

Police/Government Background Check; US and UK citizens will be processed through Kaya (admin fee applies) all other nationalities must provide local police check

The course

Established in 1989, Kaya's Learn Spanish Program in Costa Rica offers a unique Spanish immersion language course that enable students to learn the language and at the same time experience Costa Rican culture. While Spanish instruction is the focal point of all academic classes, you will have the chance to engage with Latin dance classes as well as cooking classes to practice and improve your speaking, dancing and cooking skills outside of the classroom.

You can study abroad in Costa Rica and experience a new classroom methodology, constructed so students can communicate, comprehend and use accurate pronunciation in Spanish quickly. The instructors pay special attention to individual language needs which emphasises active student participation. Your classes will be intense, yet enjoyable, challenging and most of all – fun!

There are ten levels of instruction which are currently on offer to students: Beginner I, II & III; Intermediate I, II & III; Advanced I, II, & III, as well as specialised Spanish courses for medical, legal or business professionals, Spanish teachers, etc. Students will be placed in the appropriate level, according to your proficiency as determined by a written test and an oral evaluation.

All of our classes are offered in small groups, with an average of 3 or 4 and a maximum of 6 to a class.

Role of the volunteer

Depending on your level of Spanish and your goals for your time studying with us, there are a number of courses which you can get involved with. All of the classes emphasise speaking abilities, but we consider the Spanish language as a whole; therefore, our methodology takes into account its different components including grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, cultural understanding and pragmatic use. You will be placed in classes according to your Spanish proficiency level, which is determined by a written test sent by email and an oral evaluation exam before starting your course. Your level will be confirmed by your instructor based on your performance during the class.

Depending on your level of Spanish and your goals for your time studying with us, there are a number of courses which you can get involved with.

Skills required

No skills are required, we just ask that you turn up with your Spanish cap on and are ready to give Costa Rica and the language everything that you have!

Why the course needs you

Spanish is now one of the most widely spoken languages in the World and is the third most popular on the internet, surpassed only by English and Chinese. If you really want to get to grips with the language or would like to improve the skills that you already have, Costa Rica is a wonderful country to learn the language as well as experience the Costa Rican culture.

Project location

Your project will be located in the city of San Jose in the San Jose region, which boasts all the amenities of a modern city while still surrounded by lush flora, fauna, natural parks, mountains, and beaches. Costa Rica is an exciting place to visit and is the perfect place for those who really enjoy adventure and nature. From the capital city, where the participants live you are within easy reach of beaches, volcanoes and forests of all kinds. Everything is accessible within 5 to 6 hours by public bus.

The school is located in the university district and has a campus vibe, with coffee shops and food courts. There is free computer and internet access and a busy bulletin board to help you organise your social activities.

Project facts

Duration: 1+ week

Requirements: 18+

Location: San Jose, Costa Rica

Working hours: Monday to Thursday, 20 hours per week

Project availability: Course start dates every Monday throughout the year, closed December 24th - January 2nd (Arrival Weekend). RECRUITING FOR 2022

Arrival day: -

Full orientation and support throughout your Spanish studies in Costa Rica
Small classes with an average of only 3-6 students

Costa Rican owned so students will have an authentic and true experience

Excellent native Spanish teachers each with a degree in linguistics, literature or education and each have additional experience with language teaching

Project available for a minimum of 1 week
All teaching material included within project fee

What's included

Accommodation: Home stay provided for all students

Meals: 2 per day (breakfast and dinner)

Airport: pick up from San Jose International

Training: Pre-departure preparation pack, on-site orientation and project induction provided

Support: On-site coordinator providing 24 hour support

Excursion Planning: -

Daily Latin dance classes

Costa Rican cooking lessons

Twice a week conversational classes

Cultural activities and tours on the weekends (some may cost extra)

What's not

Flights

Insurance

Visas

Airport Drop Off to San Jose International

Daily Transport from homestay to school

Police/Government Background Check; US

and UK citizens will be processed through

Kaya (admin fee applies) all other

nationalities must provide local police check

Mother and Child Nutrition in Costa Rica

COSTA RICA

The project

Volunteer in Costa Rica and you can help provide access to good food on this mother and child nutrition project. It is a challenge for some poor and vulnerable communities in Costa Rica to eat well and serve balanced meals. The objective is to improve the quality of life of those in need by providing food, dietary advice and basic well-being education. In addition, the project provides childcare so that parents can go out to work.

This mother and child nutrition volunteer placement supports nutrition centres as well as an old people's home. It also helps women who have suffered abuse and are in need of security for themselves and their children in disadvantaged communities. You will see that some families can't provide more than 1 meal per day for themselves or their families. You will work alongside project staff with young children from broken homes whose parents suffer from alcoholism or drug addictions.

The nutrition centres focuses on the healthy development of the beneficiaries by providing them food. The government supplies some of the food and in addition women who run the nutrition centre grow vegetables to supplement the meals. Volunteer in Costa Rica and you can be a part of essential work supporting the most vulnerables in the community.

Role of the volunteer

On your placement you will help prepare and serve nutritional meals for the mothers, the children and the elderly. You will prepare and serve food enabling you to gain a much better understanding of the demographics of those in need. You will learn about meals and foods that are used to supplement diets that are low on nutritious value.

At the nutrition centre and the old people's home, you will mainly focus on preparing and serving meals. Your help may also be needed to support workshops for the residents, enabling them to become self-sufficient with their nutritional needs. You will also be expected to help with day-to-day care and support the residents and children. If you speak Intermediate Spanish (B2 on CEFR) and are happy to pursue some self-driven initiatives, please let your Kaya advisor know.

Skills required

If you have an interest, experience or qualifications in nutrition, this project is perfect for you. You need to be compassionate, understanding and approachable towards the beneficiaries and non-judgemental. Having a reasonable level of Spanish (Basic User Level A2 of CEFR) is recommended. Spanish lessons can be arranged alongside your placement to increase your confidence level for an additional cost. If you have skills and experience, you may be able to develop workshops that you develop, alongside your general duties. Please speak to a Kaya advisor about this. You will need Intermediate User Level B2 of CEFR and must be self-motivated and able to work without supervision. You will be asked to send your CV/Resume before being accepted onto this project.

Why choose this project

- ✔ Support the most vulnerable members of the community at the nutrition centres where childcare is also offered.
- ✔ Help with additional educational workshops if you have the Spanish language fluency.
- ✔ Gain work experience, experience cultural exchange and develop your language skills.

Project location

You will be based in one of two locations, Alajuela or Atenas. Alajuela is located in the Central Valley near the bustling capital of San Jose and has a year-round pleasant climate. It sits at the base of the volcanic slopes of Poas Volcano. As one of the oldest towns in the country Costa Rican history, tradition and culture are deeply rooted here. Atenas has a very friendly population and is surrounded by agrarian villages where coffee, mangoes and other produce are farmed. There is plenty to do at weekends and both are great locations.

Project facts

Duration: 2 – 26 weeks

Requirements: Age 18+

Location: Alajuela, Costa Rica

Working hours: Monday-Friday; 08.00-12.30. You can combine this with another project so please speak to a Kaya Advisor

Project availability: Project starts every Monday.

Arrival day: Saturday

What's included

Accommodation: Single or shared room in a homestay (according to availability)

Meals: 3 per day

Airport: pick up and drop off from San Jose International Airport

Training: Pre-departure preparation pack, on-site orientation, project induction and Learning Reflection Manual provided

Support: On-site coordinator providing 24 hour support

Excursion Planning: -

Language classes: 6 hours of Spanish language classes

Activities: 1 dance class and 1 cookery class included. Staff help organise evening and weekend activities.

Transfers to and from your orientation to your project location

What's not

Flights

Insurance

Visas

Daily transport between your accommodation and your project
Spanish lessons can be provided for an additional cost of £100 (\$175) for 6 hours tuition.

Police/Government Background Check; US and UK citizens will be processed through Kaya (admin fee applies) all other nationalities must provide local police check

Sea Turtle Conservation in Costa Rica

COSTA RICA

The project

Volunteer abroad on our Sea Turtle conservation projects in Costa Rica and help to protect female sea turtles, their nests and hatchlings laid on beaches along the Pacific and Caribbean coasts of Costa Rica. Protection is needed, against poachers and natural or introduced predators. This is done using a man-made shelter called a "vivero". Refuges have been created in order to protect important nesting sites for the Pacific Olive Ridley, the Leatherback, Green turtles and Hawksbill turtles.

Research for the nesting activity of the turtles takes place alongside the conservation work and is used to improve the next seasons' activities and techniques. The information is shared with the community, local and regional authorities with the goal of increasing awareness about conservation. The sea turtle conservation programme is a scientific-based conservation activity, which aims to raise the number of sea turtle hatchlings and improve the survival rate of these beautiful reptiles. Sea turtles are a wonderful legacy from prehistoric times and the goal is to preserve the species and its associated ecosystems.

Role of the volunteer

In preparation for your two weeks volunteering, you will spend your first week in San Jose developing your Spanish skills on an intensive Spanish course. You will then make your way to your placement location, where you will be involved with a number of different protection and maintenance activities. These may include beach patrolling at night; collecting eggs; trail and camp maintenance or research and data collection. As a volunteer you will have the amazing opportunity to help release baby sea turtle into the ocean. Much of the work on this project is carried out at night, generally between the hours of 8 pm and 4 am. Volunteers also work in the day time as well but are given time off to rest between the different shifts.

Skills required

This project is great for those who love the outdoors, and are interested in conservation and wildlife especially turtles! There will be many hands-on activities which require loads of enthusiasm and energy especially for long nights of patrolling. Volunteers will be in close contact with the turtles and must be comfortable with this.

A good basic level of Spanish is required (Basic User Level A2 of CEFR). One week is included in your placement and additional weeks can be arranged if needed for an extra cost. Please discuss your language levels with a Kaya Placements Advisor.

Why choose this project

- ✔ Share your time to increase chances that more hatchlings can be saved and therefore save an endangered species
- ✔ Gain experience working with a local team, build relationships and use the Spanish that you acquire during your intensive Spanish lessons prior to your project placement.
- ✔ Share your native English speaking skills with the local community which helps them appreciate different accents and gain confidence.

Project location

Your first week will be spent in San Jose and you will have plenty of time to explore the city following your studies. It will be a great opportunity to put your language skills into practice. Your project locations will depend on the needs of the project at the time of your volunteering placement and the season. We have projects on both the Pacific and the Caribbean coast where there are different turtles at certain times of the year. If you are thinking of joining this project then please contact one of our advisors by sending an email to info@kayavolunteer.com. They will be able to give you more information about the location and the individual projects.

Project facts

Duration: 3-12 weeks

Requirements: Age 18+

Location: Caribbean and Pacific coastal locations, Costa Rica

Working hours: Usually 6 days a week with 1 day off. Hours vary but include night work when the turtles are nesting.

Project availability: Project closed the whole of January.

Arrival day: Sunday

What's included

Accommodation: Simple shared volunteer accommodation

Meals: 3 per day during placement, 2 per day during Spanish study

Airport: pick up from San Jose International

Training: Pre-departure preparation pack, on-site Orientation and Project induction provided

Support: On-site coordinator providing 24 hour support

Excursion Planning: -

1 week intensive Spanish lessons in San Jose (20 hours study)

What's not

Flights

Insurance

Visas

Transport home from project

Transfer from San Jose to the project location from £45 - £110, depending on the location of the project

Airport Drop Off to San Jose International

Additional weeks of Spanish classes. These can be arranged for £250 / \$438 per week. Price includes accommodation.

Police/Government Background Check; US and UK citizens will be processed through Kaya (admin fee applies) all other nationalities must provide local police check

Teach in Elementary Schools and Kindergartens in Costa Rica

COSTA RICA

The project

Volunteer abroad with Kaya in Costa Rica and get hands-on teaching experience with children who will really benefit from international instruction. Kaya works with an amazing variety of public schools that are in and around San Jose, the bustling capital of Costa Rica. All projects welcome volunteers to teach English as well as to interact with the children in various subjects such as sports, arts and even educational trips and recreational activities. Resources are often thin on the ground and children often come from low income families. The government funds some of their programs but their families are asked to pay for materials as well as a tuition fee.

The projects work with schools with children aged 2 to 15 in different placements. Volunteers can work in elementary schools, teaching English or a specialised subject. Alternatively volunteers can work with students up to the age of 18 that are beginning to learn a trade and need extra support learning English. Volunteers can also choose to work in kindergartens and daycare centres by helping out with the younger children's routines and play times help prepare lessons and teaching classes alongside the local teachers. Bring your skills, enthusiasm and interests and share them with the teachers and students of San Jose!

Role of the volunteer

Following one week of intensive Spanish lessons, the teaching volunteers will get involved with a diverse range of activities throughout their time volunteering in the schools. Exact activities depend very much on the experience and interests of the volunteer and the needs of the placements in the city at the time of volunteering. Volunteers may be asked to teach English in relation to the schedules set by the teachers or to act as an assistant during class time. Volunteers may be asked to be responsible for helping out with physical education and cultural classes, amongst others. Volunteers may also be asked to prepare lessons or certain playtime activities. Not to worry, you will receive support if you are asked to do this!

Skills required

A variety of teaching volunteers are required for this placement. Anyone with a love of children and some experience in a pre-school or any educational setting will be most welcome. Volunteers who are TEFL trained or who have a specialism such as sport will be highly valued. Good organisation and communication skills are very important. A CV/Resume is required for acceptance onto this project. A love of children is also obviously a must! A basic level of Spanish is required (Independent User Level B1 of CEFR) as interacting with the children and local teachers is important. You will receive 1 week on intensive Spanish lessons prior to the commencement of your placement - additional weeks of lessons can be arranged or an additional cost. Please discuss this with a Kaya Placements Advisor.

Why choose this project

- ✓ Help make classes more productive and enriching as the teacher is able to spend more time focusing on the lesson as a whole, while you are able to enable other children to receive extra support which they would otherwise not be able to have.
- ✓ Learn about the Costa Rican education system, as well as get your hands-on teaching and support experience that can add to your CV/Resume.
- ✓ Develop your language skills, enabling volunteers to communicate with the children and local staff more effectively, by attending intensive Spanish lessons prior to the placement.

Project location

Your project and study will be located in the San Jose region, which boasts all the amenities of a modern city while being surrounded by lush flora, fauna, natural parks and mountains. Costa Rica is an exciting place to visit and is the perfect place for those who really enjoy adventure and nature. From the capital city, where the volunteers live, you are within easy reach of beaches, volcanoes and forests of all kinds. Everything is accessible within 5 to 6 hours by public bus.

Project facts

Duration: 3-12 weeks

Requirements: Age 18+

Location: San Jose, Costa Rica

Working hours: Monday – Thursday, 7:30 am-12:00 pm, 12:30 pm - 4:00 pm

Project availability: schools closed in July, for school holidays from mid November to mid February and one week for Easter holiday. RECRUITING FOR 2022

Arrival day: Sunday

What's included

Accommodation: Family Homestay

Meals: 3 per day during placement, 2 per day during Spanish study

Airport: pick up from San Jose International Airport

Training: Pre-departure preparation pack, on-site Orientation and Project induction provided

Support: On-site coordinator providing 24 hour support

Excursion Planning: -

1 week (20 hours) of intensive Spanish lessons during your first week, in San Jose
Transport by public bus to project (private transfers available at additional cost)

What's not

Flights

Insurance

Visas

Transport home from project

Airport Drop Off to San Jose International
Additional weeks of Spanish classes.

These can be arranged for £250 / \$438 per week. Price includes accommodation
Police/Government Background Check; US and UK citizens will be processed through Kaya (admin fee applies) all other nationalities must provide local police check

Project Costs for Costa Rica

COUNTRY	PROJECT	2 WEEKS PRICING		4 WEEKS PRICING		EXTRA WEEKLY PRICING	
		Price GBP (£)	Price USD (\$)	Price GBP (£)	Price USD (\$)	Price GBP (£)	Price USD (\$)
Costa Rica	Animal Rescue Project in Costa Rica	N/A	N/A	£1542	\$2407	£200	\$312
Costa Rica	Community Empowerment Volunteering at Cooperatives in Costa Rica	£1308	\$2092	£1776	\$2839	£233	\$373
Costa Rica	Costa Rica Spring Break Volunteering Week	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Costa Rica	Teen Community Volunteering in Costa Rica	£1087	\$1696	£1732	\$2704	£323	\$504
Costa Rica	Volunteering for 16 and 17 year olds in Costa Rica	£1308	\$2092	£1776	\$2839	£239	\$373
Costa Rica	Learn Spanish in Costa Rica	£1022	\$1595	£1659	\$2589	£319	\$497
Costa Rica	Mother and Child Nutrition in Costa Rica	£1401	\$2241	£1905	\$3044	£252	\$401
Costa Rica	Sea Turtle Conservation in Costa Rica	N/A	N/A	£2042	\$3188	£345	\$539
Costa Rica	Teach in Elementary Schools and Kindergartens in Costa Rica	N/A	N/A	£1448	\$2260	£200	\$312

Program Agreement, Terms and Conditions

Thank you for choosing to apply for placement on a Kaya programme. We are committed to providing you the best support as you prepare for the experience of a lifetime, which is why we have laid down the following terms and conditions. By checking the agreement of these terms and conditions you have accepted to abide by the rules laid down in this agreement, and we suggest that you read the details carefully and speak to us if you require any further clarification. Please note there may be additional conditions that apply to individual placements.

Program Agreement Terms and Conditions

NOTE: The current terms outlined include temporary accommodations made to address the current Covid-19 global pandemic. We have called these Kaya Amended Coronavirus Terms – Kaya ACT. These temporary terms are outlined alongside Kaya regular terms and conditions and may be amended at any time. These are all shown in red for easy identification.

Deadlines, Dates and Prices

Applications are accepted throughout the year and are subject to limited space availability. Programs are priced individually and displayed on the Kaya website alongside each project. Deadlines are based on the dates of the desired placement. Some programs and project placements fill up prior to their published application deadlines. Apply early to secure your space. Important deadlines for the Kaya Programs are:

Early Application

Application can be made up to 1 year in advance, however, arrangement and communication of the program specifics will commence 2-3 months prior to program start.

Application Deadline

Programs have varying deadlines. Most are around 3 months prior to the program start. Last-minute bookings will be considered on an individual basis. Last-minute bookings are advised that their placement arrangements may require more flexibility to accommodate.

Total Fee Due

60 days prior to program start – unless specified for a particular project

Late Payment

Payment deadlines are displayed on the invoices provided. It is important to meet these deadlines to secure your placement, and missing these deadlines may result in the cancellation of your placement. Where a payment extension is requested, this will be considered on a case-by-case basis and will incur a late payment fee of £35/\$60 basis.

Program Start and Finish Dates, Current Prices, and “What’s Included” are displayed on the Kaya website alongside each project. Details shown on printed materials are subject to change. Projects prices are reviewed annually and bookings for the following year may differ from those listed. Payments may be made in GBP or US\$.

Application Instructions

Apply online: <https://www.kayavolunteer.com/book-now>

At the time of initial application, an application fee of GBP£75/ US\$95 is requested. This fee will be deducted from your total program fees. This is a non-refundable fee that enables us to process your application and ensures we work to match you with the best possible placement for your skills, interest, and needs. In the event that the application is rejected by Kaya, this payment will be returned in full. You will be provided the option to “speak to an advisor before submitting your fee”, but please note that your application may not be completed until payment of this fee is received.

Upon receipt of the application form and fee, we will contact you to arrange an online interview, work with our in-country teams to review your information, and offer you a placement in line with your request. Kaya will contact all applicants within 2 weeks of receipt of the application.

Confirming your placement: Once a placement is offered, you will have the option to confirm your placement and dates, and reserve your space with a confirmation fee of GBP£150/ US\$250. This fee will be deducted from your total program fees.

Kaya ACT: During the Covid pandemic, this payment will not be requested until travel to that country is possible (the host country borders open to you, and your home country is allowing travel to the host country). These will be deferred until confirmation of travel dates can be provided, at which time applicants may decide whether to proceed with, or cancel their application.

Until your confirmation fee is received we cannot guarantee your space on the program. See Trip Cancellation & Refund Policy below for further details.

Additional deposit fees: A small number of our programs have an additional deposit applied by our in-country project partners. You will be notified of this on initial inquiry if this exists for your program. Any payments made will be applied toward the total program fee. These additional deposits are non-refundable in all cases but can be applied to future participation for that specific placement if your placement dates need to be moved.

Trip Cancellation & Refund Policy

Kaya reserves the right to cancel any program if there are insufficient registrants (where minimum numbers apply) or if Kaya determines it is in the best interest of the applicant's safety and quality of programming to cancel the program. Kaya is not responsible for other costs incurred by applicants preparing for the trip. Should a program be canceled by Kaya, for any reason, applicants will be offered the option of positions in other Kaya Programs or a full refund on all fees paid, minus application fees and bank charges.

For participants wishing to cancel or shorten their program, the following terms apply:

- Application fees are non-refundable in all instances for successful applicants. Unsuccessful applicants will be fully refunded.
- Additional deposits, where applicable, are also non-refundable in all instances.
- Confirmation fees: If you decide to cancel, for any reason, any time up to 61 days before travel, we will provide a 50% refund, less application fee, and bank fees.

If the travel status of your program changes prior to your travel dates, and those are likely to interrupt your travel at your booked program time, we will provide a full refund, less application fee, and bank fees. Cancellations made within 60 days before departure will make confirmation fees non-refundable.

- Program fee balance – Payment of all remaining program fees are due 60 days prior to your program start date. Payment of program balance fees prior to this deadline are fully refundable up to 61 days before departure (minus any bank fees incurred). Payments not received by this deadline may result in the cancellation of your program or a late payment surcharge of £35/\$60.

If the travel status of your program changes prior to your travel dates, and those are likely to interrupt your travel at the booked program time, we will provide a full refund, less application fee, and bank fees.

- Under our standard terms, if you decide to cancel or shorten your program within 60 days of your program start, no refunds will be provided.

Individuals who cancel or shorten their program, for any reason (including health, bereavement, and visa issues) less than 60 days prior to the program start or during the program will not receive any refund, and we encourage you to approach your travel insurance to seek compensation in this instance. We are happy to provide proof of payment and cancellation if required. Travel insurance with trip cancellation coverage is strongly encouraged for this reason.

- **Kaya ACT:** Due to the impacts of Covid-19, for programs planned for 2021 we will be providing a more flexible cancellation policy. For programs with start dates in 2021, if you decide to cancel between 60-31 days prior to travel, a 50% refund less application fee and bank fees will be provided. Some programs are exempt from this flexible arrangement and you will be notified of this upon booking. After 30 days, no refunds will be provided.
- **Date Flexibility** – Participants will be permitted to change program dates any time until 2 weeks prior to departure, for any reason, for no additional fees. Last-minute changes will be considered on a case-by-case basis. New dates will be subject to availability. Programs being delayed to a future year may incur program fee increases. Dates must be changed prior to payment deadlines for “payment due” dates to be amended.

Program Agreement, Terms and Conditions

- If the Participant cancels for any reason, the Participant must notify Kaya in writing. The cancellation will be effective upon receipt of the written notification by Kaya to info@kayavolunteer.com. Careful planning goes into developing volunteer and intern programs for every individual applicant. As a result, Kaya and our host communities and partners incur substantial administrative and planning costs, including accommodation reservation fees, prior to the start of each program.
- Kaya strives to ensure sustainable projects and quality programs for Participants. The Refund Policy is defined in an effort to protect and accomplish these goals. Kaya deals with each situation fairly, in consideration of well-established policies, and with the best interests of community members and Participants in mind.

Date and Project Changes

Upon application, you will receive an interview in which your placement and program dates will be discussed. When you confirm your placement and pay your confirmation fees, we will agree program dates against which your placement will be held. We encourage you to stick to these as the projects plan around your participation. Under standard terms, one (1) date or program change made prior to 60 days before departure will be accommodated for, at no charge, subject to availability. Placements moved to the following year may be subject to price increases. After 1 change has been accommodated for, any future changes made will be subject to an administration charge of GBP£40 / USD\$70 – payable at the time of change. For project changes where the original project incurred an additional deposit, the additional deposit amount will NOT be transferable to your new project.

Date changes requested within 60 days prior to departure will be considered on an individual basis, the original payment deadlines will apply and changes will be subject to an administration charge of GBP£40 / USD\$70 – payable at the time of change. Placement changes within 60 days prior to departure are typically not accommodated for, due to project commitments made at that time.

Under Kaya ACT, the 60-day deadline outlined for changing program dates without a fee has been reduced to 14 days, with further flexibility considered as a result of travel bans and advisories in place at the time of your placement.

Age

Participants must be aged 18 years over at the time of pick up, unless expressly agreed in advance by Kaya. Kaya reserves the right to cancel any application or terminate any placement, without refund, if false proof of age is found to have been supplied.

For participants under 18yrs, who have been accepted onto a Kaya program, parental consent is required and participants agree to our Code of Conduct, which includes strict policies about alcohol consumption. Where accepted, participants under 18yrs will not be offered any different or additional service or treatment to other participants. All participants under 18yrs must participate in an interview and require a reference from a professional person who has known them for over 2 years.

Program Flexibility

Kaya programs are different from travel or adventure programs. Each development project and work experience placement is unique and often cannot be implemented exactly as planned for a variety of reasons. Itineraries shown are a guide and the order of activities may be shifted in line with factors, including, but not limited to the weather, changing project needs, local regulations and individual situations. Project activities shown cover most areas that you may be asked to get involved, but additional activities may arise that require your assistance and not all activities shown may be carried out in the period of your stay. Applicants are advised that these variables may require changes before or during a program. Part of the challenge and growth opportunity is in adapting to changing conditions and overcoming the obstacles they may present.

Legal Jurisdiction, Release of Liability and Assumption of Risks

UK and European Participants:

Participants from the UK and European countries booking their placements on kayavolunteer.com enter a contract with Kaya Responsible Travel Ltd., of The Arches, North Campus, Sackville St, Manchester, a company registered in England and Wales (company number 6885700). This contract is governed by English law under the exclusive jurisdiction of English courts.

Participants from North America and other Non-European countries:

Participants from North America and other Non-European countries booking their placements on kayavolunteer.com enter a contract with Kaya Responsible Travel Ltd, part of the Global Educators Inc consortium of 3 Ferry Street, Studio 3-West, Easthampton, MA, a company registered in the state of Massachusetts, USA. This contract is governed by the laws of the State of Massachusetts, U.S.A., excluding Massachusetts's conflict of laws rules, regardless of your location. You hereby expressly consent to exclusive jurisdiction and venue in the federal and state courts located in Massachusetts U.S.A., for all matters or disputes arising out of or relating to these Terms and Conditions or your access or use of the Website.

All Participants:

In organising and managing volunteer projects, work experience placements, group programs, and courses, Kaya, its agents, employees, and staff give notice that they act solely on behalf of and for the benefit of the participants, on the express agreement that Kaya shall not be liable, financially or otherwise, for non-performance or unsatisfactory service; for the injury to persons including death, for loss of or damage to property, for accident or delay, and/or for expenses arising from strikes, weather, quarantine, sickness, government regulation, civil unrest or war, or from any act or omission of Kaya agents or employees, and/or airline, mail services, rail, bus company, vehicle rental entity, hotel, restaurant, or other suppliers of service.

By submitting this application form the participant assumes all of these risks and agrees to indemnify Kaya, its officers, directors, and employees harmless for any and all liability that may arise in connection with participation in the Kaya Programs. Kaya reserves the right to refuse any applicant admission to any program if he or she is deemed ill-suited for the program. Important program information will be sent to the email address provided on the application. Photographs, videotapes, and/or statements of participants may be used in promoting Kaya. Kaya publishes program and project photos on a regular basis on the Kaya website. These photos and videos are available for participants, friends, family, and interested individuals to download, email, or print for personal use. Photography usage for distribution purposes will be considered on an individual basis on application to Kaya.

Participants accept that they will be subjected to various physical and emotional demands and accept that the standard of living, including food, hygiene and accommodation in the relevant country may be below the general standards of their own country. The Participant also understands that certain risks may arise, including, but not limited to, hazards of traveling in remote areas; travel by automobile, van, bus, airplane, boat, train or any other means of conveyance; the forces of nature; civil disturbances; national or international conflicts; terrorism; arbitrary itinerary changes made by foreign governments or vendors; dive related accidents, boat accidents; interacting with dangerous wildlife; personal injury or illness from the local environment; accident or illness in remote locations without immediate evacuation or medical facilities; or negligent acts of third parties. The Participant asserts that they know, understands and appreciate these and other risks inherent in the program, agrees that participation is completely voluntary and assumes all risk associated with the program.

Kaya shall have no responsibility for any activities undertaken by the Participant outside the scope of those directly relating to the program, including activities that may have been recommended by Kaya staff, or it's partners, within the location. For all excursion activities, Kaya acts as an agent, not a principle of the activity. Any information provided by Kaya, including but not limited to information about visas, vaccinations, healthcare, climate, group sizes and packing requirements is given in good faith for information and educational purposes only but without responsibility on the part of Kaya or it's partners.

Travel Documents and Insurance

All participants must possess a valid passport for their Kaya trip. Participants are responsible for any costs associated with visas, airport taxes, obtaining the proper travel documents for their trip, and changes to flight itineraries. All participants must have valid, comprehensive health and travel insurance during the time of their program covering risks associated with a 'Force Majeur' event, medical emergencies and repatriation. Details of insurance must be supplied to Kaya prior to commencement of any program. Kaya reserves the right to refuse entry to programs if insurance details are not supplied.

Program Agreement, Terms and Conditions

Behavioural Expectations

By joining a Kaya Program, the participant assumes certain obligations to Kaya, its community, and other program participants. If on-site program directors determine a participant fails to meet the behavioural expectations set out in this contract and within Kaya's Code of Conduct document, that participant will be asked to leave the program. Participants asked to leave under these circumstances will not receive a refund. In addition to other program responsibilities, as a program participant you are responsible for:

- Being in sufficient good health to undertake the program.
- Acting in an appropriate and respectful manner towards the local people, fellow travellers, program participants, and staff in accordance with the customs, laws, regulations, and ordinances of the country of placement.
- Following all health and safety protocols and precautions outlined by ground-team members.
- Communicating effectively your interests, skills, limitations, and needs to home community members and program staff members.

Disclosure

All participants must disclose at the time of application any pre-existing or existing medical conditions (including depression and eating disorders) and disabilities. Some placements may require doctor's notes as a requirement for participation – some of which may be dictated by legal requirements or liability purposes. Any medical conditions arising after Application and prior to Placement must be disclosed to Kaya prior to placement commencement. Kaya reserve the right to refuse applications based on these disclosures, if deemed necessary for the safety of the participant and the project. Kaya operates a policy of non-discrimination and any information provided that may impact an application will be discussed with the applicant prior to any decisions being implemented to establish the basis for any concerns. Kaya reserve the right to cancel any application, or terminate a placement without refund if false information or lack of disclosure is found to have been supplied. Kaya is not held responsible for the administration or monitoring of any medication. While Kaya makes every effort to establish safety conditions and risk assessment, Participants are warned that the general standards of health, safety and hygiene in many countries visited may not be of comparable standard to Western countries and hence a risk of injury and illness is inherent to this venture.

Some placements may require a police criminal background check, conducted by the government. This check shall be carried out at the applicant's expense with guidance from Kaya. Some placements require proof that volunteers are clear of certain medical conditions, through the provision of a health certificate. This check shall be carried out at the applicant's expense.

Complaints

If a Participant wishes to lodge a complaint in relation to their program, they shall first bring the complaint to the attention of the in-country coordinator, who will make reasonable efforts to deal with and, where possible, resolve the complaint within a reasonable time. If a Participant feels that a complaint is not being dealt with adequately by their in-country coordinator they should then contact the Kaya placement advice team to escalate the issue. If the coordinator is unable to resolve any serious complaint, and the participant chooses to terminate their placement early and depart the project, they shall provide the coordinator with a written version of events leading to their early termination, prior to departure. Refunds cannot be provided for early departure unless extreme circumstances are found, which will be determined at the sole discretion of Kaya. Issues reported after the end of a program that were not reported during the program, giving the site team an opportunity to address the issue in country, will not be considered for any compensation. Participants agree that Kaya shall not be liable for damages or compensation relating to any claim regarding inconvenience, disappointment, discomfort or loss of enjoyment.